Allandale Neighbor

February 2017
Vol 32, Issue 1

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

It's my Park Day
Keep NW Park Beautiful

Saturday, Feb. 25, 9am - Noon.

For more information on how you can volunteer, see article on page 17.

City Releases First Draft of CodeNext

Todd Shaw, ANA Zoning Committee Chair

The City of Austin is re-writing its land development codes, which you have likely heard referred to as CodeNext. Land development codes regulate more than just zoning. The changes to Austin's code will address new development, redevelopment, zoning, subdivisions, transportation and parking, density bonuses, affordable housing, outdoor signs, site plans, drainage, watershed protection, parkland, open space, and more. The first public draft of the code make-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

TAKE10 Compression Only CPR Training—FREE! Saturday, February 18, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Laura DiCarlo, Allandale Safety Chair, lhdicarlo@yahoo.com

TAKE10 Compression Only CPR Training - FREE!

Where: Northwest Recreation Center (2913 Northland Drive 78757)

When: Saturday, February 18, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m., drop in (takes just 10 minutes)

Why: February is hearth healthy month and learning compression only CPR is fast, easy and can save lives!

Brought to you by the Allandale Neighborhood Association Safety Committee. This class is free and all are welcome– even kids can learn! We will give the class

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Editor's Note 1: Fewer Pages, Higher Costs

Laura Beck

For many years before my involvement, Allandale has had a commitment to get this newsletter onto the doorsteps of every resident of Allandale, from 45th to Anderson, MoPac to Burnet Road. We use a service called EDDM from the US postal service to do so very

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Editor's Note 2: This Newsletter is not a Political Vehicle.

Laura Beck

Me again ☺ Last issue, one of our articles, by a regular contributor, ended with some of her personal thoughts on climate change. We can all

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ANA Executive Committee meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month at NW Rec Center. General Membership meetings are held in March and September.

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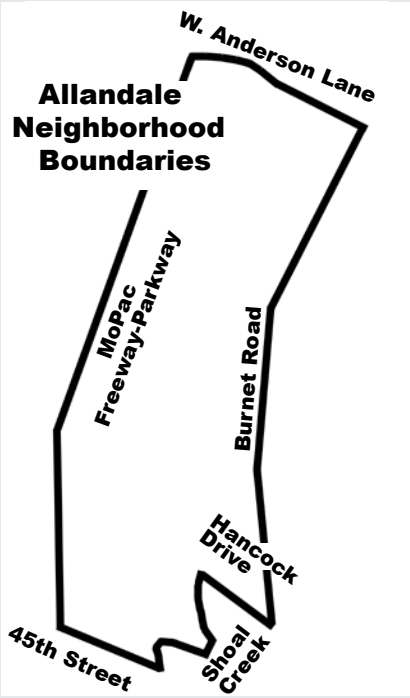

President's Letter

Marshall Thompson, 512-541-8587, Allandale.neighborhood@gmail.com

Presidents letter was unavailable for this issue. ⌘

City Releases First Draft of CodeNext

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over was released on February 1 and was accompanied by an open house at the Palmer Events Center offering up-close access to the code.

Your Executive Team, Zoning Committee, and Special Land Development Code Ad Hoc Committee have been reviewing the portions of the new code that affect Allandale neighborhoods including the surrounding major transportation corridors where most of the development growth will occur.

The City CodeNext Team will hold five public meetings to discuss the revisions to the text portions of the code. The dates for these meetings are February 11, February 18, February 25, March 4 and March 25, although the locations have not been determined yet. In April of this year, the city will release maps that show where the revised zoning applies. The Allandale Executive Team will pay special attention to the "mapping" of the City's new code system, as it will lay out where increased density will be designated adjacent to existing single family homes.

The city will conduct an open house in each council district from April through June for the community to review and provide suggested revisions to the draft maps. The Allandale Neighborhood Executive Team will schedule special meetings as needed to provide information on the code changes to its members as well as to receive input on our neighborhood association's recommended changes to the draft code and maps. We will also collaborate with nearby neighborhood associations and the Austin Neighborhood Council. Below is the link to CodeNext website which includes several informative documents and presentations.

The Community Character Manual and Community in a Box are resources that describe the existing character of Austin Neighborhoods including Allandale. There is also an Outreach Plan that details the City's public engagement process.

http://www.austintexas.gov/department/about-codenext ⌘

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Your Ad	Size	One time rate
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TAKE10 Compression Only CPR Training—FREE! Saturday, February 18, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

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every 15-20 minutes between 9:00 and 11:00 a.m., so stop by the rec center whenever you can!

Program Details from http://www.austintexas.gov/take10:

TAKE10

Stands for "Take 10 minutes to learn compression-only CPR." It is community-based and peer-taught CPR training that is simple, fast and FREE. Learners gain skill, by practicing giving compressions, as well as the confidence to act in an emergency.

Why TAKE10?

Cardiac arrest is an all too common and deadly event. It can happen anywhere, anytime, to anyone. If more people know what to do (through programs like TAKE10), more people survive.

How is TAKE10 different?

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- Learn in 10-15 minutes
- Three simple steps
- It's FREE

TAKE10's Three Steps:

1. CHECK: For signs of life (responsiveness, normal breathing)
2. CALL: 911 and for someone to get an AED
3. COMPRESS: Hard and fast, center of chest when a teen or adult is found in sudden cardiac arrest ⌘

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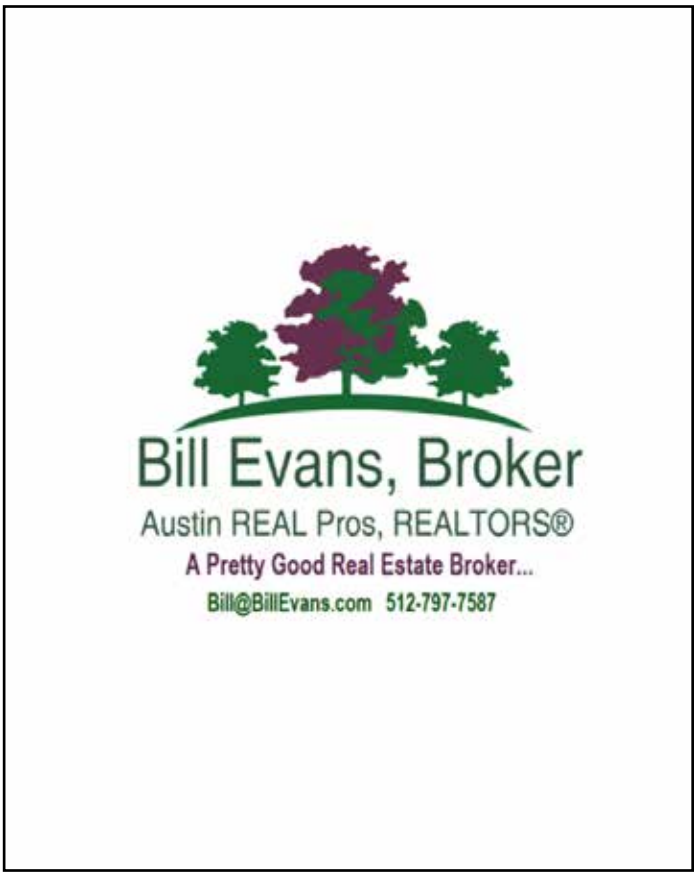
Editor's Note 1: Fewer Pages, Higher Costs

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

affordably. But we have to use the routes the post office sets. We had been missing a few homes and we fixed that in the October and December issues, but with that, picked up a few more homes and businesses outside of our border, and a much bigger bill each issue. As you can likely guess, providing the newsletter for free is a service to Allandale that does not come without a cost.

Our amazing advertisers cover most of that cost, and we appreciate them and hope you do to. The best appreciation is to support their business, and TELL THEM you saw their article in the ANA Newsletter, and appreciate their support of us. Thank goodness for our advertisers, because with less than 10% of 4800 homes paying ANA dues (of only $20 or $10 per year), we do not have money to cover the newsletter. The increased routes to reach all our homes have exceeded our available budget. So this issue is a few pages less than normal, and that is likely what you will see in the future. Perhaps



you will be glad to read a few less "By Laura Beck" articles! ☺ We are doing what we can to balance a newsletter we are very proud to continue to provide, and the budget we have available. ⌘

Editor's Note 2: This Newsletter is not a Political Vehicle

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agree, this is a hot (no pun) topic that brings forward strong opinions. This was a mistake on my part, as your editor, to let run in our pages. I apologize. It gave me a good reminder of what I remind all readers too that this newsletter is about the neighborhood, and about living in Allandale, and we will remain true to that spirit in the future. Even if it means more real estate taken up "By Laura Beck" than I'd like.

A "Thank You" From a Runner

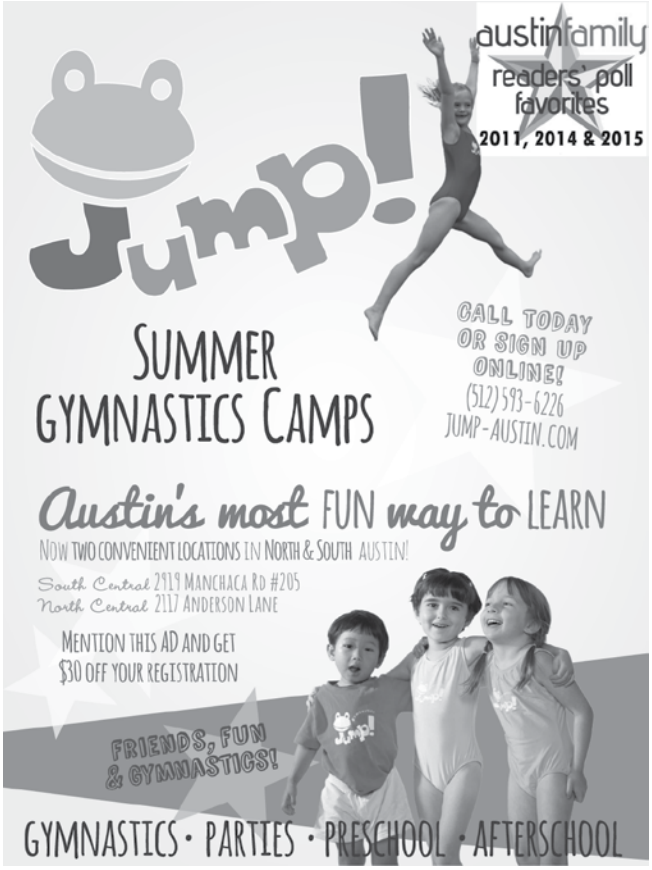
Laura Beck

It was such fun to run through my own neighborhood and yell "Hi" and thanks to those watching! Thank you to all who came out for the 3M half marathon Sunday, January 22. I know, it frustrates some neighbors to have roads diverted for a few hours two times a year, but it is for such great reason and we runners really appreciate Allandale as such a nice stretch of the course. Please remember to cheer again on Sunday February 19 for the Austin Marathon, where Allandale is between miles 16 and 18. Mile 16 is at 2222 right as runners enter our neighborhood to the south. They run on Shoal Creek Boulevard to Great Northern and leave our hood at Foster, mile 18. Cheer 'em on at about 8:45 a.m. for elite runners to 9:30 to 10 a.m. for those not quite as elite! For more on this one, or to register to run, go to http://youraustinmarathon.com/. ⌘

Renew you ANA membership at allandaleneighbor.com

ANA Executive Committee Meetings

Held on the 1st Wednesday of every month at 7:00 p.m.
& are open to the public. Join us!
Northwest Recreation Center 2913 Northland Drive



Allandale Eating– You Can Totally Chicken Out at Flyrite

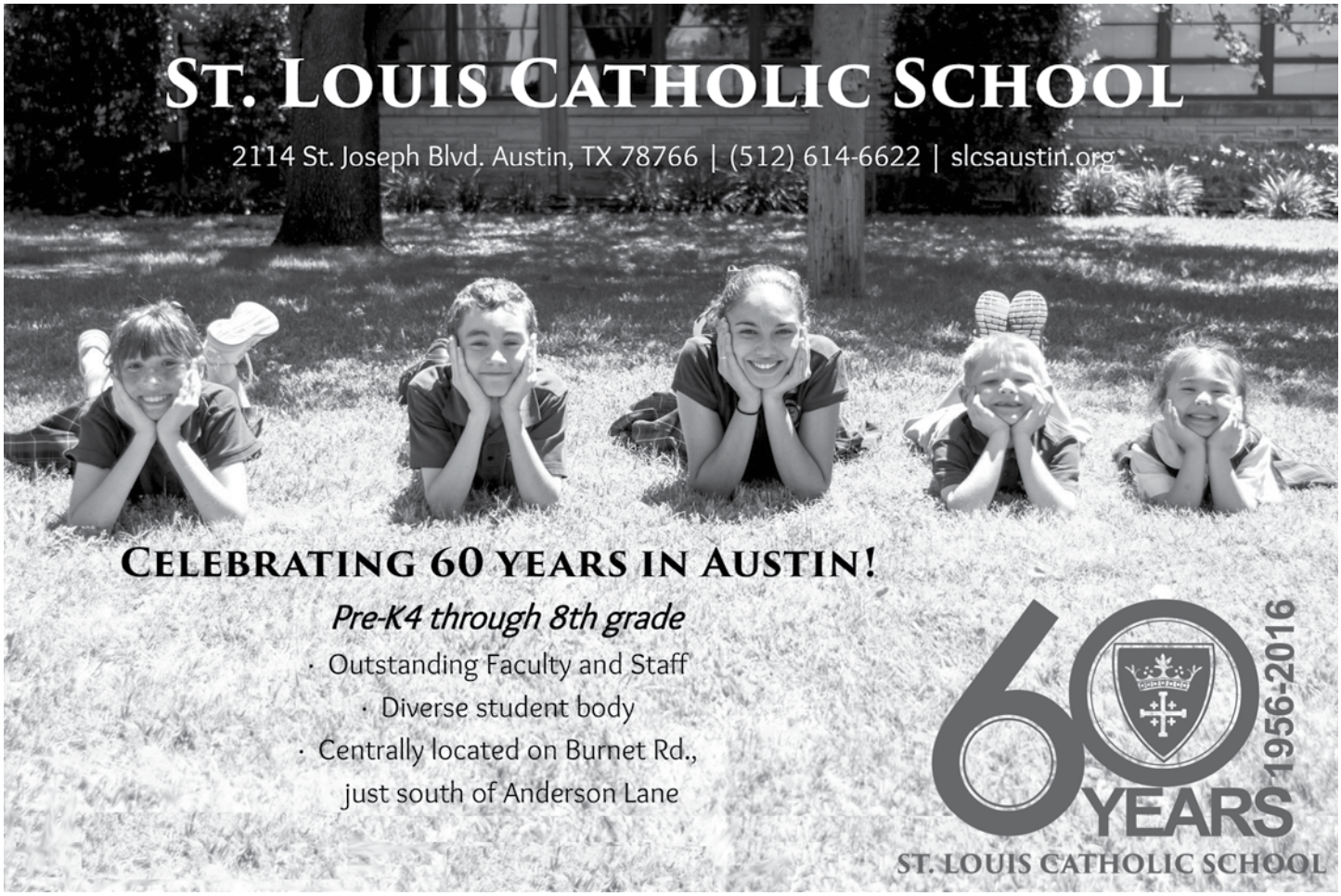
Robert E. Mace, somewhere on Daugherty

Consider the chicken sandwich, which, in its most ideal form, consists of a thickly battered-then-fried chicken breast brilliantly placed between two pieces of bread. Atlanta's Chick-fil-A claims to have invented the chicken sandwich and rules the roost in the chicken sammich fast food category with $6 billion in annual sales from nearly 1,900 stores.

Austin's Kevin Warden, who's opened more than 80 Which Which sandwich shops across Texas, noticed the lack of competition in the chicken sandwich market and decided to strut into the farmyard with Flyrite, his fast-casual answer to Chick-fil-A. Comfortably nested between the Poodle Dog and Barley Swine and sporting an enormous origami chicken wing facade, his second Flyrite recently hatched in the neighborhood at 6539 Burnet Road.

Flyrite is, by my eyes and taste buds, a cup of Chick-fil-A, a tablespoon of Chipotle (sans the norovirus), and three delightful squirts of Googie from P.Terry's, resulting in chef'd up sandwiches served inside George Jetson's chicken coop. Unlike most fast food joints, Flyrite uses all-natural chicken and fresh ingredients. The sandwiches come in a variety of styles with the standard fried chicken breast, a grilled option, and fancy chef-designed spectacles.

My first pip into Flyrite was the Standard, a basic crispy chicken sandwich, which I ordered and picked up through the drive through. Unfortunately, due to crosstalk on the squawk box, my sammich didn't come adorned with the let-



tuce and tomato I ordered. And being a spring chicken, I was confused by the term "pickle chips", assuming that meant tater chips cut like pickles instead of the sliced pickles I got. Maybe I was brooding due to the lack of vegetables in my order, but I found the plucked sammich merely OK, giving it a meh-minus.

Where Flyrite catches wing is with their Craft sandwiches where the chefs lit up the barnyard with toppings and specialty sauces. The Crafts include the Spring Chicken (grilled, lettuce, carrots, cucumber, and cucumber yogurt sauce), the Cowboy (spicy crispy, bacon, cheddar, fresh jalapenos, and hoss sauce), and the Club 512 (crispy, bacon, lettuce, tomato, pepper jack, and avocado salsa). Available as a sandwich topper and for fry dipping, the avocado salsa rules the roost with rich flavor and a solid back spur of spicy. And be forewarned: those fresh jalapenos will blissfully raise your hackles.

If you want to avoid the wattles (and eat healthier) or are simply not into yard fowl, there are rice paper wraps with and without bird as well as salads and kale slaw (essentially coleslaw with whisps of kale). Flyrite also offers gluten-free and vegan options. For the wee biddy biters there are chicken tenders and juice pouches. For the over-21s there is beer and wine, including several locals on tap. You can even snag a six-pack or a growler for the road. Flyrite also offers competent breakfast tacos starting at 7:00 a.m., including the Chicken and Waffle taco, a chicken tender wrapped with a waffle "tortilla."

Warden designed Flyrite to cater to the drive-through customer, but he also provides a clean and modern dine-in experience. Parking, unfortunately, is limited, so be prepared to park down the street and strut back to the coop during peak hours.

Flyrite requires more scratch that Chick-fil-A (the Standard starts at $4.99 and the Cowboy ropes in at $7.49), but you are buying higher quality ingredients from a local vendor. Based on the gaggles of people flocking to their shop, our fledgling Flyrite has quickly taken wing. And although Flyrite has a ways to go to reach the top of the chicken sandwich pecking order, count me in as one of the roosters crossing the road to egg them on!

Flyrite, 6539 Burnet Road, flyritechicken.com ⌘

BUG OFF! Common Structural Termites

Wizzie Brown

There are three main types of termites that can cause problems for homeowners in Texas: native subterranean termites, formosan subterranean termites and drywood termites.

Native subterranean termites have nests in the soil and must maintain contact with soil or an above-ground moisture source to survive. If native subterranean termites move to areas above ground they make shelter (mud) tubes of fecal material, saliva and soil to protect themselves.

Native subterranean termite workers and soldiers.

Formosan termites are a more voracious type of subterranean termite. These termites have been spread throughout Texas through transport of infested material or soil. For-

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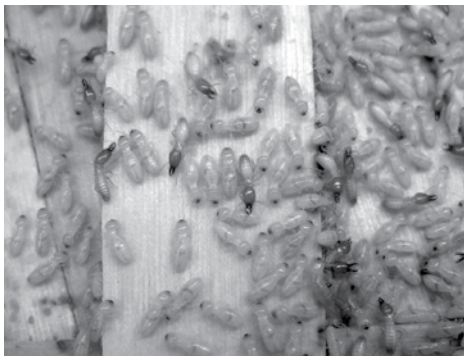
Native subterranean termite workers and soldiers



Formosan subterranean termite workers and soldiers

Drywood termite fecal pellets

mosan termites build carton nests that allow them to survive above ground without contact with the soil. Nests are often located in hollow spaces, such as wall voids.

Formosan subterranean termite workers and soldiers.

Formosan termites feed on a wider variety of cellulose than other subterranean termites, including live plants (and can be found living and feeding on trees), consuming both spring and summer growth wood whereas native subterranean termites feed only on spring growth. Formosan termites have also been known to chew through non-cellulose materials such as soft metals, plaster or plastic.

Drywood termites do not need contact with soil and reside in sound, dry wood. These termites obtain moisture from the wood they digest. Drywood termites create a dry fecal pellet that can be used as an identifying characteristic. They have smaller colonies- around 1,000 termites- than subterranean termites; they also do not build shelter tubes.

Drywood termite fecal pellets.

If you are concerned that you may have termites, call a pest management professional to inspect your home for termites.

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For more information or help with identification, contact Wizzie Brown, Texas AgriLife Extension Service Program Specialist at 512-854-9600. Check out my blog at www.urban-ipm.blogspot.com. ⌘

Please Leave No Pile Behind — Poop Pollutes!

This article reprinted from a February 2010 ANA newsletter article, because as several neighbors have noted: POOP IS STILL A PROBLEM!

Are you guilty of leaving your dog's waste on your neighbor's lawn because you thought you were providing free fertilizer? Perhaps you don't scoop the poop because you think it's downright disgusting! Imagine if all dog owners in Austin didn't scoop the poop. Our dogs create an average of a half-pound of excrement per day. With 120,000 dogs in Austin, that adds up to 60,000 pounds of dog waste –equivalent to nearly five dump truck loads– produced throughout the city every day!

Pet waste is a subject everyone likes to avoid, but it is more than smelly and unsightly, it is a health risk to pets and people, especially children. When it rains, pet waste left on trails, sidewalks and grassy areas can wash into the nearest waterway. Even if you can't see signs of water near you, the feces wash into storm drains and then travel to your neighborhood creek or lake untreated. Like human waste, animal waste may contain harmful bacteria and viruses, rendering the water unfit for recreation, or other uses. It takes only one teaspoon of dog feces in a water body the size of an Olympic pool to make the water unsafe for swimming. Pet waste also contains nutrients that will accelerate the growth of nuisance algae in creeks and lakes. So please, scoop the poop– it's the healthy and neighborly thing to do!

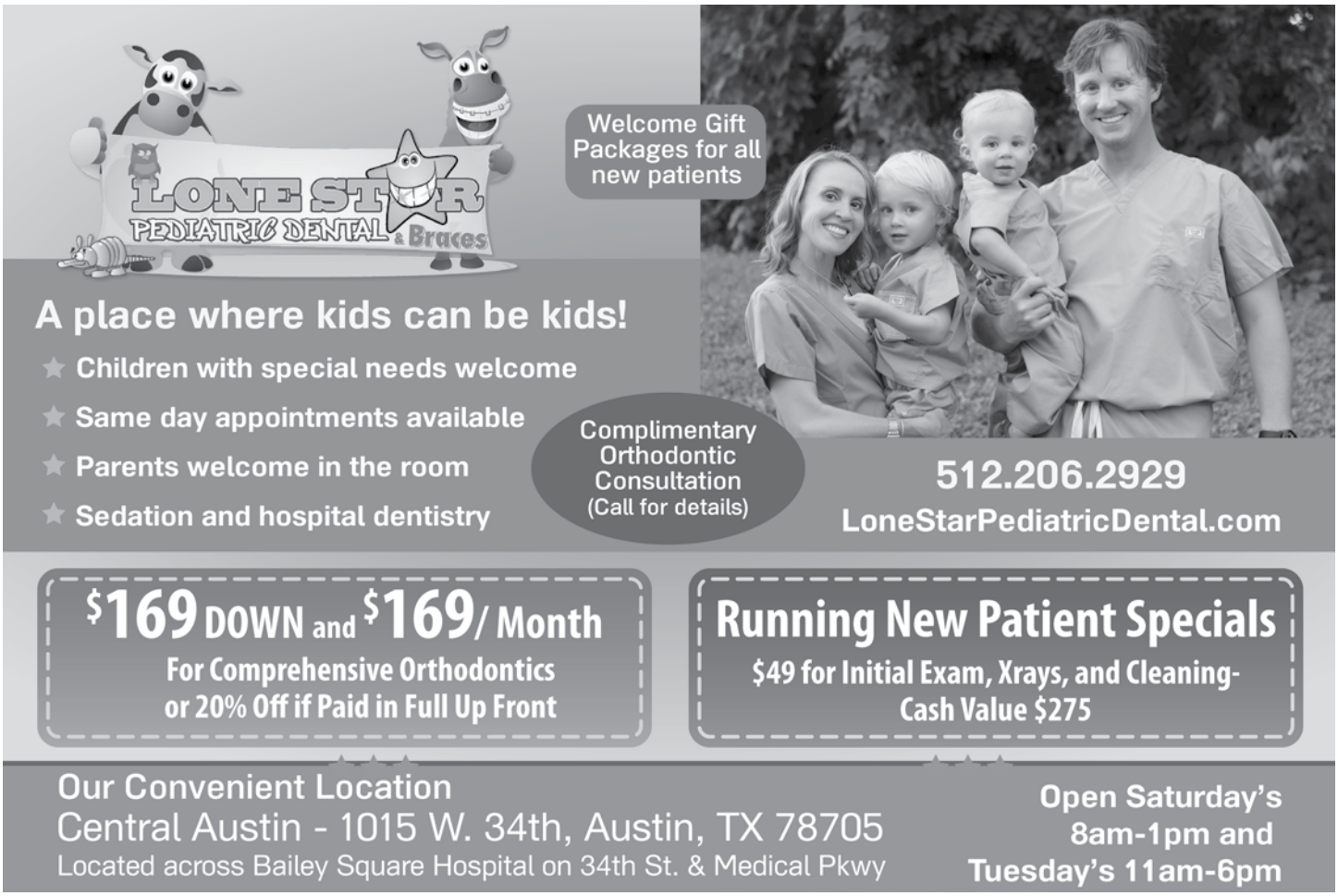
Austin City Code 3-4-6 DEFECATION BY A DOG OR CAT:
"An owner or handler shall promptly remove and sanitarily dispose of feces left on public or private property by a dog or cat being handled by the person, other than property owned by the owner or handler of the dog or cat."
Potential Fine: Up to $500 in City Parks

Here's how to help:

1. Bring It! Carry a scooper bag when you walk your dog.
2. Scoop It! Use the baggie like a glove, scoop the poop, invert and seal the bag.
3. Toss It! It belongs in the trash.
4. Place It! Put a "Scoop the Poop" sign in your yard to encourage your neighbors to scoop it up too! (To request a free sign, call 974-2550 or visit www.cityofaustin.org/watershed/wq_materials.htm).

SCOOP THE POOP, AUSTIN – for Cleaner Creeks … Cleaner Streets … Cleaner Feet!

Visit www.ScoopThePoopAustin.org for more information. ⌘



Gullett Good News

Debbie Trominski

Gullett is a school like no other place and we have a new library that will knock your socks off! After the better part of a year of construction, the library ribbon cutting ceremony was on February 2. The new space is truly beautiful and a great addition to improve the school facility.

Also on February 2 was the STEAM night where the third, fourth, and fifth graders showed off their scientific hypotheses, research and findings. It was lots of fun but we are also very happy that the science fair projects are now behind us!

For all the many Geckos (and their parents) who bike to and from school every day, life has gotten even better. The Ghisallo Cycling Initiative has provided Gullett with a large toolbox, bike pump, and bike work-stand for community use. How thoughtful and helpful!

The Geckos were very busy between January 23 and February 5, reading for the annual BookSpring Read-a-thon that raises funds to provide books for local children in need. Gullett has been the top fundraising school for BookSpring for many years in a row. Reading and helping promote literacy to local kids in need is serious business for the Geckos.

Last but not least, congrats to the Gullett Teacher of the Year, coach Bailey Henderson! Thanks for helping keep the Geckos active and loving physical fitness.

Upcoming events:

February 20 – Presidents Day, no class
March 9-10 – Sports Day at Gullett fields
March 13-17 – Spring Break
March 25 – Spring plant sale from 9:00 a.m. – noon
April 14 – Student holiday, no school

To keep on top of all the good stuff happening at Gullett, check out Gullett-Geckos.com. ⌘

All About Lamar

Gina Ross

It's been a busy start to the new year at Lamar Middle School and Fine Arts Academy. After months of hard work and rehearsals, the Lamar Jazz Factory went to New Orleans to perform in the 8th annual Jazz Education Network conference. Under the leadership of Mr. Hairston, he Jazz Factory played to an audience of more than 150 jazz aficionados. Their performance was very well received and the trip was exciting and rewarding for all!

Suessical Jr., our spring musical, wrapped with two performances at the AISD PAC on January 18 and 19. The cast of 75 talented singers, dancers and actors have been practicing since the fall and their hard work certainly showed in their amazing performances. Good job Scotties! A huge thank you to Ms. Starkey, Ms. Easter and Ms. Luna for leading these kids in such a fun and successful show!

40 Lamar students auditioned for the TMEA All-Region Choir and we are

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proud to report that 32 placed into the choir, more than any other middle school in Region 18. Congratulations Scotties for such a great showing!

Scottie Sports are in full swing. This spring season, Hat Creek has graciously been providing our seventh grade basketball team with a hearty meal before each game. Thanks Hat Creek for keeping our players fueled and energized on the court!

Cleaning out those closets? Bring those unwanted or unused items to the Scottie store! We can use donations of teen magazines, gaming magazines, mechanical pencils, highlighters, stuffed animals, jewelry, makeup items, footballs, soccer balls, Frisbees, calculators, headphones and gift cards. Anything of interest to a young teenager is welcome. Please feel free to bring donations to the Lamar office any time and mark them for the Scottie Store!

The Dance Department would also appreciate donations of gently used dance shoes, especially tap shoes to be used in classes and shows. All sizes are welcome. They also need donations of ankle weights and small hand weights for our dancers to use on Fitness Fridays!

As always, we appreciate you keeping an eye out for our Scotties as they walk to and from school each day. Please be aware of school zones and crosswalks, and remember to put your phone away while you are driving. We appreciate your assistance in keeping our community safe! ⌘

It's Knight Time– McCallum Updates

Jill Whiteside Schavrda

Explore the MacKnightly News and McCallum HS Website - http://mccallumhs.com

February 20 - Staff and Student Holiday (Bad Weather Makeup Day)
March 13 -17 - Spring Break
April 6 - Late Start
April 14 – Student/Staff Holiday
February 28 - Choice Sheet Night @ MAC - 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.

McCallum Fine Arts Academy Application Procedures Continue:

- Continued Audition and Portfolio Reviews – February 18 and 20 (invitation and appointment required)
- Prospective Students: Notification of Acceptance to be emailed: Friday, Feb. 24
- Contract Deadline for commitment to McCallum Fine Arts Academy: March 10

For more information, please visit: https://mccallumhs.com/fine-arts-academy/apply/important-events/

Fine Arts Academy Performances & Events:

Spring Musical: Me And My Girl
Music by Noel Gay Book & Lyrics by Douglas Furber & L. Aurthur Rose
February 23-26 & March 3-5, 2017
McCallum Arts Center https://mccallum.ludustickets.com/

Steel Drums Inside Out Concert in Cafeteria
February 23, 2017 @ 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Band- Wind Ensemble Recording Concert in MAC
March 6, 2017 @ 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Guitar Spring Concert in MAC
March 7, 2017 @ 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Free tap dance classes for McCallum students. All levels and abilities welcome.
9:00 - 10:00 a.m. – Location: Fine Arts Building Theater
Saturdays - 2/11, 2/18, 3/4, 3/25, 04/08 & 04/15
Check the MAC FAA Calendar for any updates or changes:
https://mccallumhs.com/fine-arts-academy/events/

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

Interested in contributing an article?
Send suggestions to allandaleneighbor@gmail.com
and we'll put you in touch with our editor.

It's Knight Time– McCallum Updates

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

McCallum Athletics Program Info and Schedule Links:
https://mccallumhs.com/programs/athletics/
https://mccallumhs.com/events-calendars/ (see sports tab)
Upcoming Baseball Events:
McCallum Baseball Alumni Game and Booster Club Picnic
February 18, 2017 @ 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. - Northwest Field
1st Annual McCallum Baseball Charity Golf Scramble
February 19, 2017 @ 12:30 - 6:00 p.m. -The Golf Club at Star Ranch

COLLEGE PREPARATION INFORMATION:
Helpful preparation and testing links. For more information, visit: https://mccallumhs.com/graduation-beyond/collegecareer-center/
https://mccallumhs.com/programs/academics/naviance/
https://mccallumhs.com/events-calendars/testing-calendar/ ⌘

More From Mac: MacTheatre Presents the Fun-Filled Dance Sensation Me & My Girl February 23-26 and March 3-5

Amy Hufford

What happens when you discover you are royalty? Me and My Girl is a comic, musical romp from the thirties that follows the fortunes of Bill Snibson, a proud Cockney who is amazed to learn that he's actually the 14th Earl of Hareford. But if he wants to claim his title, it looks as if he will have to shed his old life– and love.

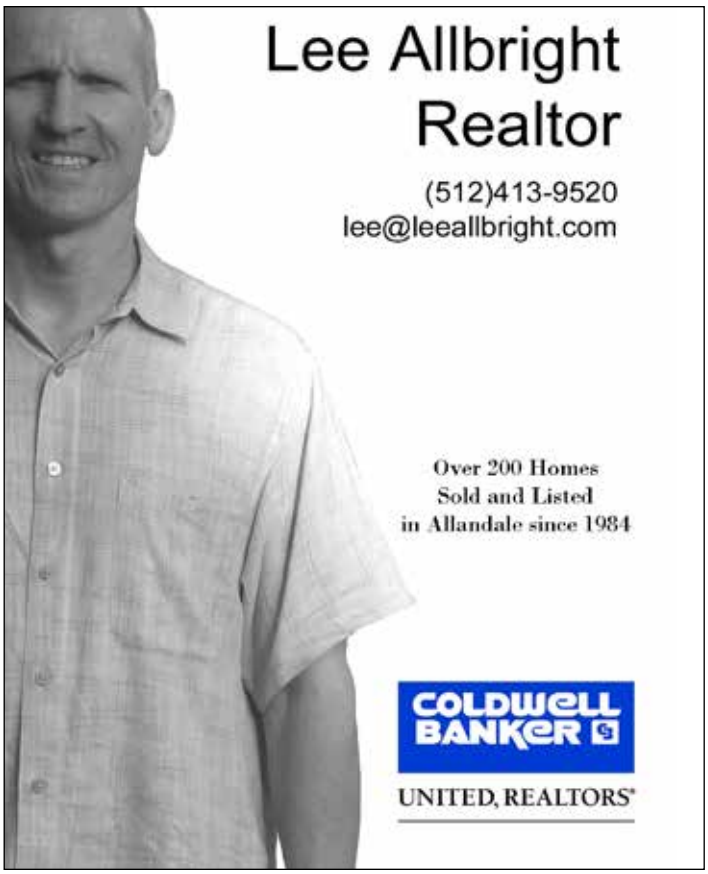
With classic songs including *The Lambeth Walk* and *Leaning on a Lamp Post,* Me and My Girl won a hatful of Olivier, Drama Desk and Tony Awards. This heart-warming dance sensation is perfect for the entire family and the show will feature exceptional dancing with cast members who have attended weekly tap classes since the beginning of the school year to prepare.

Tickets may be purchased in advance at https://mccallum.ludustickets.com/

- Student tickets are $7; adults are $16, and seniors are $12.
- Add $2 for tickets purchased at the door, except at the student rate.
- Group rates for groups of 10 or more are also available online.
- Show runs February 23-26 and March 3-5 at 7:00 p.m.; Sunday shows are only at 2:00 p.m.
- Location is the McCallum Arts Center (the big, newer theater) at 5600 Sunshine Drive.

In 2016 *Austin Entertainment Weekly* named MacTheatre as the Most Outstanding Academic Theater in Austin along with St. Edward's University. More information on MacTheatre's 63rd season can be found at http://mactheatre.com/.

MacTheatre is one of many programs in McCallum's Fine Arts Academy, which was named as the number one 2015 National GRAMMY Signature School. As Austin ISD's district-wide fine arts intensive high school program, the Fine Arts Academy at McCallum High School provides an exemplary arts education program for ninth through twelfth grade stu-



dents to pursue an accelerated arts curriculum as fine arts majors.

"The kids at McCallum Fine Arts Academy are Exhibit A when it comes to keeping arts in schools, and keeping talented students on the track to Broadway." ⌘

More from Mac: Baseball, Catch the Fever

By the McCallum Baseball Booster Club

McCallum High School is one of the oldest high schools in Austin. For over 60 years, McCallum High School has been the starting point for many very successful baseball players. On Saturday, February 18, we will celebrate the rich tradition of baseball at McCallum High School with the 2017 McCallum Baseball Alumni Game and Booster Club Picnic. Over the years, this event has become a big hit in the Allandale neighborhood in northwest Austin. Last year hundreds of baseball fans watched over 40 Knights alumni (including several former college and professional players) and three former coaches compete against the Varsity Knights in a nine-inning game.

This event takes place at the best neighborhood ballpark in Austin– Northwest Field (Shoal Creek Boulevard at North Park Drive). The game starts at 11:00 a.m. and admission is free. The McCallum Baseball Booster Club provides complimentary lunch (burgers and dogs off the grill) for all in attendance. Join us for a great day of baseball and family fun at the 2017 McCallum Baseball Alumni Game and Booster Club Picnic!

Knights alumni (players and coaches) who want to participate in the game are asked to register on our website: www.leaguelineup.com/machardball. All former players and coaches are welcome! QUESTIONS? contact McCallum Baseball Alumni Game Coordinator Mark Wangrin at MACBaseballAlumni@hotmail.com. For more information, please visit the McCallum Baseball website at: www.leaguelineup.com/machardball.

The fun continues on Sunday! The McCallum Baseball Booster Club presents the First Annual McCallum Baseball

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

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More from Mac: Baseball, Catch the Fever

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

Charity Golf Scramble on Sunday, February 19, 2017. The scramble is hosted by The Golf Club at Star Ranch in Hutto, TX. We have spots for 100 players (25 foursomes). Players check in at 11:00 a.m. and compete in a putting contest. The scramble starts at 12:30 p.m.: 18 holes of best ball scramble play. The afternoon concludes with dinner, awards and a prize raffle.

Entry fees and sponsorships are charitable donations that support the McCallum baseball teams. QUESTIONS? Contact McCallum Baseball Golf Scramble Coordinator Glen Masters at 512-848-1093 or <glen@austinhi-tech.com>. Visit the McCallum Baseball website for more information and to register as a player or sponsor: www.leaguelineup.com/machardball. ⌘

Renew you ANA membership at allandaleneighbor.com

Make Northwest Pool Even Cooler

Steve Johnson

We love Northwest Pool in Allandale ... until about July, when the water temperature can climb to almost 100 degrees.

That's too hot! Nobody likes water that hot, not lap swimmers, recreational swimmers, or anyone just trying to beat the heat on a summer day.

Fortunately, there's a simple solution: an aerator, which is a pump that has water spray nozzles attached to it. Warm water is sucked up from the pool, driven through the pump, and sprayed into the air, which cools the water down– same principle as kids playing in the lawn sprinkler.

The picture shown is of an aerator (not in use) that we had at Northwest Pool a few years back.

The master's swim team that owned the aerator took it with them when they moved to a different pool.

We want to buy two larger aerators, which should cool the pool down at least 10 degrees in the summer.

Endorsed but not funded by the Allandale Neighborhood Association, we need you to help us to raise $3,800 to purchase the two aerators. Post-purchase, we'll donate the aerators to the City Aquatics Department for them to install, operate, and maintain.

Please donate what you can for this important project. We need to raise the money by **April 10, 2017.**

Please show your support by going to http://GoFundMe.com/P/5QX9. ⌘

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Allandale Outside: Mid-Winter Gardening

Ginger Soulé

Here we are at that point where most plants are dormant and we hope temperatures stay low enough to keep them dormant until we're past hard frost. But peeking up here and there – pesky winter weeds. What to do? Deeply tap-rooted plants like true dandelions are actually beneficial as they bring up minerals from deep in the soil. When they die, their mineral-laden tissues leave mineral content on top of the soil. So if you can stand just picking off the flowers to prevent seeds, dandelions can benefit your soil. Caution, not all yellow daisy looking blooms are dandelions. True dandelions grow a rosette of deep green, very tooth-edged leaves with a single flower atop each stem, about 12" tall. There are false dandelions that are lighter green with multiple flowers and small leaves on the stem. Overall, these more resemble a thistle plant, not the classic dandelion, and provide no benefit. Then there's rye grass and my personal nemesis Quack Grass which has narrow green leaves and wiry eight to twelve inch stems with a seed cluster on top. Both have short fibrous roots, not too difficult to pull if soil is damp. These two are most problematic as they have adapted to producing seeds that are so hard to spot and get rid of and, of course that's where next year's weeds come from. Late in the spring, previously tall growing rye (up to eight inches), will start blooming on barely one-inch-tall stems– hard to see. Quack grass cleverly lays its stems down against the ground thus hard to find and pull and absolutely under the lawnmower blade so you can't mow and catch with a grass catcher. So frustrating. Unfortunately, pre-emergent treatment for the latter two must be done in late September to early October, with corn-gluten meal.

Caution: If you wish to use this pre-emergent treatment, whether in early fall or late winter, don't use it anywhere you plan to plant seeds as it will not distinguish between weeds and desirable items like vegetables and flowers.

To prevent things that will germinate now (summer grassy weeds) you should immediately apply corn-gluten meal, as we're almost past the time it is effective. Oh and beware of chemical-based weed-n-feed products. They are widely advertised but totally inappropriate for our climate as weed suppression needs to be finishing up now and fertilization can wait till April so the timing just doesn't work here. Further, weed-n-feed products are "salt-based." which kills off the beneficial microbes in the soil that benefit all plants by maintaining the health of the soil.

It is late, but still possible to put out onion sets and potatoes (garlic cloves went in in October / November). It will soon be time to set out tomatoes, peppers and eggplant. These three members of the solanacia family are semi-tropicals so cannot stand temperatures below 45 degrees, not just freezes. Cover well. Allowing some air space between plant and cover helps, and never let plastic touch the leaves.

Happy weed-free gardening everyone. ⌘

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Neighborhood Watch

Laura DiCarlo, ANA Safety Chair, lhdicarlo@yahoo.com

Activities in which the Safety Committee has been engaged since the December newsletter:

Learned of and disseminated crime/safety information

- Cleaned up and reported graffiti
- Attended a Commander's Forum and met our new APD District Representative (DR)
- Sent a letter to the COA Public Works Department on behalf of the ANA and Gullett leadership in support of a sidewalk on Twin Oaks
- Set up a TAKE10 CPR training at the Northwest Rec Center (February 18, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.) co-sponsored by Gullett PTA (see separate article)

Crime Stats

Since the December newsletter there has been just one Burglary of Residences (BOR), which was in the apartments at 2300 North Loop. Valuables were also stolen from a storage unit in a driveway on Greenlawn. There were eight Burglary of Vehicles (BOV), 2 of which were near single family residences (one on W. Frances Place and one on Greenlawn). The other six were on Burnet Road, in the Suzi's/Rebel Pizza/Mattress Firm parking lot, and at the W. North Loop apartments.

List-serv and Citizen Input

The topic of crime/safety came up on the Allandale list-serv in these areas:

- High school student walking hit by a car at Shoal Creek Boulevard and Bullard on December 13; minor concussion
- Resident on Great Northern Boulevard harassed a biker on December 13; police spoke to the victim and perpetrator and victim did not want to press charges; perpetrator has history of harassing pedestrians and bikers on GNB and continues to be someone to look out for; sent a picture taken by a bystander to the list-serv and block
- IRS phone scam
- Second reporting of a man in a white Suburban shouting political statements while pumping his fist at people in front of their homes as he drove by

Commander's Forum

There was a Region 1 commander's forum on January 10 at McCallum High School at which crime stats and initiatives were shared, Commander Todd Gage presented about APD Special Operations, and citizens could meet their DRs. Allandale residents met with our new DR Officer Everett Beldin, who will be at our March general meeting and whose contact information is below.

Sidewalk on Twin Oaks between Shoal Creek Boulevard and Vine

Do you avoid walking on Twin Oaks between SCB and Vine because the road is steep, there's no sidewalk, and visibility is poor? Thanks to Allandale resident Jonathan Skaggs who got the ball rolling asking for support in helping get a sidewalk on Twin Oaks. The process has begun, and thanks also to Allandale resident Amy Hufford who posted a draft of the letter written by Jonathan Skaggs to Eric Dusza of the COA Public Works Department on the ANA website and to the 207 resi-

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dents who added their names in support of a sidewalk. The two homeowners living adjacent gave their OK as long as a tree and landscaping are preserved, and one even supplied a letter from her mother to the city back in 1975 regarding safety concerns at that intersection. We received approval from Gullett Principal Janie Ruiz, Gullett PTA President Gina Ross, and the ANA EC to send the letter from them per Leslie Pool's strategist Michael Gaudini's suggestion, and sent it via email on January 27.

Please contact me with questions, concerns, or if you are interested in getting involved with the safety committee. You can become a block captain, remove graffiti, patrol, help with the TAKE10 CPR training every February, and more!

Our APD District Representative:

Everett Beldin
Senior Patrol Officer
Baker 3 District Rep
Everett.beldin@austintexas.gov
Phone number: 512-974-1219 ⌘

Renew you ANA membership at allandaleneighbor.com

It's My Park Day—VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!—Saturday, March 4, 8 a.m. - noon

The recreational and aesthetic value of the pond at Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest District Park can be improved by increasing the density and diversity of plants along its shore. More robust vegetation will help take up excess nutrients from the pond, which should reduce the frequency of odor issues and nuisance algae. It will also provide increased habitat for birds and other organisms associated with small ponds.

Join the City of Austin Watershed Protection Department in planting a diverse array of natives along the banks of the pond. We will be planting them in focused areas to maximize visual appeal while maintaining access to the pond edge for park users. Volunteers also can help remove duckweed that can be reached from the pond's edge.

Some tools will be available, but please bring gloves and a trowel or "sharpshooter" shovel for planting if you have them handy. We won't actually be getting in the pond, so you won't get wet. But you might wind up a little muddy.

Join the City of Austin Watershed Protection Department in planting a diverse array of natives along the banks of the pond. We will be planting them in focused areas to maximize visual appeal while maintaining access to the pond edge for park users. Volunteers also can help remove duckweed that can be reached from the pond's edge.

Check for more information and a volunteer link at Austin Parks Foundation: https://austinparks.givepulse.com/group/events/28.

Please come and help support a healthy and attractive habitat for the pond in the center of our park! ⌘

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KEEP NW PARK BEAUTIFUL

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2017

9:00 AM – NOON

Join Allandale Neighborhood Association for a morning of TLC at NW Park. We'll pick up litter and paint over graffiti, so wear old clothes and closed toe shoes. Thanks to **Keep Austin Beautiful** for supplying tools and organizational resources!

kab KEEP AUSTIN BEAUTIFUL

Sign up here to volunteer:
http://tinyurl.com/znnqxtw
Questions? Email rezumwalt@gmail.com

If it rains on Saturday, we'll start an hour later. If rain persists, we'll start at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday. If the entire weekend is rained out, we'll reschedule within 2 weeks.

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ALLANDALE AREA PROPERTY SALES YEAR TO DATE

	2014	2015	2016
TOTAL TRANSACTIONS	67	58	59
AVG SALES PRICE	$452,156	$506,239	$543,801
AVG DAYS ON MARKET	15	19	29
AVG $/SQ FT	$256	$267	$289
MAX PRICE SOLD	$844,990	$830,000	$880,000
MIN PRICE SOLD	$300,000	$310,000	$355,000

All statistics & square footage are from Austin MLS for single family residence as of October 6, 2016. For detailed market information about your home contact Jason Heffron, Broker.

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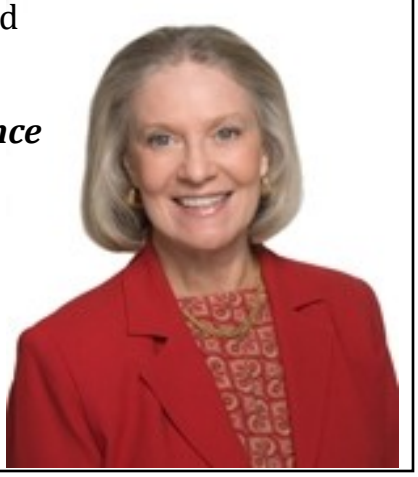

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Kay Sousares

Come and enjoy a special dancing experience at the Parks and Recreation Senior Activity Center at 2874 Shoal Crest Avenue on the corner of 29th and Lamar. Dancing is fun and it's also good exercise. We do some line dancing and lots of ballroom dancing.

We currently have two great bands that play all types of music from big band swing to rock and roll. We have experienced dancers who enjoy showing you the dance steps to certain types of music. Our special dance floor has a one and one-half inch cushion under a beautiful hardwood floor that is easy on the feet.

Dances are held on most Fridays. A schedule is available at the door. Members pay $5 per person and non-members pay $7 per person. Come and have a great time with us!

For more information, call Kay Sousares, president of the Friday night "Let's Dance Club" at 512-453-7978. ⌘

SUNSHINE GARDENS

Sunshine Community Gardens Organic Plant Sale is March 4 2017.

- 30,000 Certified Organic Tomato, Hot & Sweet Bell Pepper Plants along with Eggplants and Herbs available.
- Sale begins at 9 AM at 4814 Sunshine Dr. Austin, TX 78756.
- This annual non-profit spring garden sale enables Sunshine Community Gardens to teach best organic practices to Schools, clubs and organizations and to donate some fresh vegetables for a local food pantry.

For more, see http://sunshinecommunitygardens.org/

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